

The Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation and a distortion of free speech and the democratic process.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest--not their private political interests. When large companies control the airwaves, use of the airways is distorted to serve the owner's bottom line--not what is needed for our democracy. Instead of something produced at a politicized "News Central", it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substance news about issues that matter to the watching/listening public.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. I implore the FCC to take action on this distortion of what should be media ownership public service. Thank you.